

Superior Court of California County of Riverside

4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501

PRESS RELEASE

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http://riverside.courts.ca.gov/media/media.shtml)

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT TO HOST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUMMIT Connect-to-Protect – Bridging the Court and the Community

RIVERSIDE COUNTY: The Riverside County Superior Court is pleased to announce that it will sponsor a Domestic Violence Summit on Tuesday, December 4, 2012. The summit will bring together community based organizations and provide education, awareness, and strategies for addressing the problem of domestic violence.

Domestic violence is assaultive and controlling behaviors, including physical, sexual, psychological and economic control, committed by individuals against family members and intimate partners. According to Alternatives to Domestic Violence, a private, nonprofit organization serving Riverside County:

- One in four women will be the victim of domestic violence in their lifetime.
- In 2005, 389,100 women and 78,180 men were victimized by an intimate partner. These crimes accounted for nine percent of all violent crime.
- Over 34 percent of female murder victims were killed by their husband or boyfriend.

On average, there are nearly 6,700 domestic violence cases filed with the Riverside County Superior Court each year.

Speakers for the event will include Eliza Daniely-Woolfolk, Executive Director of Alternative to Domestic Violence at 10:30 a.m. and Hanish Sinclair, founder of the Manalive Violence Intervention and Prevention Training Institute at 12:00 p.m.

The court will use the summit as an opportunity to unveil a new web-based program for requesting domestic violence restraining orders. The program, that will be available through the court's website, will walk those seeking help through the forms required to request a restraining order. Based on responses to standard questions, the program

will populate the necessary court forms and create a .pdf file that can be electronically transmitted to the court for judicial review.

The court will be asking community organizations to create 'safe havens' where victims of domestic violence can use the court's filing program to request restraining orders. The 'safe havens' would be established in places of worship, shelters, and community centers where victims would be provided with access to a computer with internet access in a safe environment.

Riverside County Supervisors John Tavaglione, Chairman, John Benoit, Vice-Chairman, Bob Buster, Jeff Stone, and Marion Ashley have each contributed funding to help make the summit possible.

This invitation only event will be held at the Riverside Municipal Auditorium in downtown Riverside. Media representatives from groups and agencies interested in attending the event can contact the court executive office at (951) 777-3163, or by e-mail at CourtExecutiveOffice@riverside.courts.ca.gov.

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